

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 13, 16 and 17 and add new claims 18 and 19.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1 1. (Currently amended) A household appliance ~~such as a~~
2 ~~dishwasher, a washing machine, or similar apparatus,~~ for washing
3 clothes or dishes having an addition unit for adding cleansing
4 agent to a cleaning liquid, wherein the improvement comprises an
5 addition unit (9) having a solid cleansing holding receptacle
6 (24) connected by a pressure line (7) to a rinsing pump (2) to
7 deliver a wash liquid to the solid cleansing holding receptacle
8 (24) in the addition unit (9) wherein a solid cleansing agent is
9 gradually dissolved in repeated washing cycles and wherein each
10 of said repeated washing cycles and said wash liquid for removing
11 removes all or a part of said cleansing agent disposed in said
12 addition unit or until all of said solid cleansing agent is used.

1 2. (Previously presented) The household appliance

2 according to Claim 1 further comprising a suction line (17) of
3 the rinsing pump (16) connected to a liquid reservoir (15).

1 3. (Currently amended) The household appliance according
2 to claim ~~1 or 2~~ characterized in that wherein the suction line
3 (6) of the rinsing pump (2) is connected with a line or a
4 collection basin (5) for ~~cleaning~~ the wash liquid.

1 4. (Currently amended) The household appliance according
2 to claim 1 wherein said rinsing pump is a circulation pump (2)
3 for said addition unit (9) and for circulating the ~~cleaning~~ wash
liquid in the operation of the household appliance.

1 5. (Currently amended) The household appliance according
2 to claim 1 or 4 further comprising a delivery line (7) branching
3 off from a liquid circuit of cleaning liquid to deliver a partial
4 flow of ~~cleaning~~ wash liquid (7) into the addition unit for
5 removing all or part of said cleansing agent.

1 6. (Currently amended) The household appliance according
2 to claim 1 or 4 further comprising an on-off valve (8) for
3 connecting the addition unit (9) with a liquid circuit of the
4 ~~cleaning~~ wash liquid.

1 7. (Previously presented) The household appliance
2 according to claim 1 or 4 further comprising a control unit (11)
3 for dispensing a partial quantity of the cleansing agent located
4 in the addition unit (9).

1 8. (Previously presented) The household appliance
2 according to claim 1 further comprising an on-off valve (16) and
3 a control unit (11) for a time-dependent switching of the on-off
4 valve and a dispensing unit (12) for dispensing a partial
5 quantity of the cleansing agent disposed in the addition unit
6 (9).

1 9. (Currently amended) The household appliance according
2 to claim 8 further comprising a flowmeter (15) for a quantity-
3 dependent switching of the on-off valve (16).

1 10. (Previously presented) The household appliance
2 according to claim 1 further comprising a dispensing unit (12)
3 and a temperature sensor.

1 11. (Previously presented) The household appliance
2 according to claim 1 further comprising a dispensing unit (12)
3 and a sensor (10) for determining the concentration of the
4 cleansing agent.

1 12. (Previously presented) The household appliance
2 according to claim 11 wherein the sensor (10) is connected with
3 the liquid exiting from the addition unit (9) to determine the
4 concentration of the cleansing agent.

1 13. (Currently amended) The household appliance according
2 to claim 11 wherein the sensor (10) is connected to the ~~cleaning~~
3 wash liquid for measuring the concentration of the cleansing
4 agent in the household appliance during the cleaning process.

1 14. (Previously presented) The household appliance
2 according to claim 11 wherein the sensor (10) is a conductance
3 sensor.

1 15. (Previously presented) The household appliance
2 according to claim 11 wherein the sensor (10) for determining the
3 cleansing agent concentration also controls other functions of
4 the household appliance.

1 16. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~such as a dishwasher,~~
2 ~~washing machine or similar appliance~~ for washing dishes or

3 clothes comprising:

4 (a) an addition unit (9) having a solid cleansing holding
5 receptacle for holding a solid cleansing agent gradually
6 dissolved in repeated washing cycles in a household apparatus for
7 gradually adding a cleaning agent (25) to a washing liquid;

8 (b) a pump (2) for pumping said washing liquid in said
9 household apparatus; ~~and~~

10 (c) a conduit (7) connecting said pump with said addition
11 unit for removing all or part of said cleaning agent disposed in
12 said addition unit with said washing liquid;

13 (d) a measurement chamber (28) to measure the concentration
14 of said cleansing agent in said washing liquid; and

15 (e) a control unit (11) to open and close said conduit 7
16 connecting said pump with said addition unit,

1 17. (Currently amended) A household cleaning apparatus ~~such~~
2 ~~as a dishwasher, washing machine or similar appliance~~ comprising:

3 (a) a cleaning agent addition unit having a solid cleansing
4 holder receptacle for holding a solid cleansing agent gradually
5 dissolved in repeated washing cycles;

6 (b) a pump for pumping a washing liquid in a first liquid
7 circuit in a household cleaning apparatus;

8 (c) a conduit connecting said pump and said washing liquid

9 with said cleaning agent addition unit to provide a second liquid
10 circuit in said household cleaning appliance and provide the only
11 way to gradually dissolve said solid cleansing agent;

12 (d) an on-off valve disposed between said pump and said
13 cleaning agent addition unit;

14 (e) a control unit operating said on-off valve; and

15 (f) a sensor for measuring the concentration of a cleaning
16 agent in said household cleaning apparatus and for providing data
17 to said control unit to open and close said on-off valve and use
18 said washing liquid to gradually dissolve said cleansing agent.

1 18. (New) A method of washing dishes or clothes in a
2 household appliance comprising:

3 (a) utilizing a solid cleansing agent that is gradually
4 dissolved in repeated washing cycles in an addition unit;

5 (b) pumping a wash liquid in a household appliance to
6 clean clothes or dishes contained therein;

7 (c) diverting a portion of said wash liquid to dissolve
8 said solid cleansing agent;

9 (d) employing a sensor to measure concentration of said
10 solid cleansing agent in said wash liquid; and

11 (e) having a control unit for controlling said step of
12 diverting a portion of said wash liquid in response to said

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13 measure of said concentration of said solid cleansing agent in
14 said wash liquid.

1 19. (New) The method of claim 18 wherein said control unit
2 operates an on-off valve for said step of diverting a portion of
3 said wash liquid.